

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

All claims have been amended. The independent claims are 1, 12, 13, and 16 with claim 3 being a multiple dependent claim.

Most claim amendments simply use different terminology to refer to various features and components of the invention previously claimed.

1. (currently amended) A first aid strip comprising: ~~a sterile, non-adherent gauze pad, and a strip of adhesive tape attached to, one side of the gauze pad, and a pouch / well / depression or hollow is provided, on the other side, of the said gauze pad, which comes in contact with the skin, over which the first aid strip adhesive tape is affixed.~~

a substrate layer comprising a first adhesive substrate surface opposed by a second substrate surface;

a gauze layer comprising a first gauze surface opposed by a second non-adherent gauze surface;

wherein said first gauze surface is associated with said first adhesive substrate surface;

a gauze spacer comprising a first spacer surface opposed by a second non-adherent spacer surface, wherein said first and second surfaces form a parameter around a inter window thereby defining a spacer void; and

wherein said first spacer surface is associated with said second non-adherent gauze surface so that said spacer void defines a pocket.

2. (Currently amended) A first aid strip as claimed in claim 1, ~~wherein at least 2 layers of additional, with a window / hole, created in it, is attached to the said first gauze pad layer, on the side which comes into contact with the skin.~~ further comprising:

a plurality of gauze spacers stacked on top of one another so that each spacer void is in substantial alignment with each other thereby forming a spacer stack defining a spacer stack void wherein one end of said spacer stack is associated with said second non-adherent spacer surface so that said spacer stack void is in substantial alignment with said pocket and with the opposite end of said spacer stack defining a non-adherent spacer stack surface.

3. (Currently amended) A first aid strip as claimed in claim 1 or 2, ~~where in the pouch, well, depression or hollow has a depth of approx, 1.5-2.00 mm wherein said pocket has a depth of about 1.5mm to about 2.0mm.~~

4. (Currently amended) A First aid strip as in claim 1 ~~claimed in 2 or 3 wherein a ring made of an inert material is , interposed and sealed between first gauze pad layer and the additional gauze pad layer.~~ further comprising a ring disposed and sealed between said first gauze surface and said first adhesive substrate surface.

5. (Currently amended) A First aid strip as claimed in ~~claim 1~~ claim 4, wherein said ring is an inert material. ~~wherein a bulge is provided in the said first layer of gauze pad and the adhesive tape, the said bulge projecting outwardly, of said one side of the first gauze pad layer.~~

6. (Currently amended) A first aid strip as claimed in ~~claim 4~~, claim 5, wherein said ring is made of at least one material from the group of materials consisting of: cork; latex; and rubber. ~~wherein a ring made of an inert material is fixed to said, adhesive tape, surrounding the first gauze pad layer, on the said other side , of said first gauze pad layer.~~

7. (Currently amended) A first aid strip as claimed in claim 4, ~~or 6 wherein the ring is about 2.0 to 2.5 mm wide and about 2.0 to 2.5 mm deep. has dimensions of, approximately width : 2.0-2.5 mm, depth : 2.0-2.5 mm.~~

8. (Currently amended) A first aid strip as claimed in claim 1, wherein said gauze layer is about one-third the length of said substrate layer. ~~4 or 6 wherein the said ring is made of, cork, latex or rubber or any other appropriate material.~~

9. (Currently amended) The first aid strip as claimed in claim 8, wherein said gauze layer is substantially the same width as the substrate layer. ~~1 wherein a ring made of an inert material is placed on top of the gauze pad strip with the outer border of the ring flush with the margin of the gauze pad, on said other side, of said first gauze pad layer.~~

10. (Currently amended) The first aid strip as per claim 9, wherein said substrate layer and said gauze lawyer further define a bulge in substantial alignment with said spacer void. ~~wherein the ring has approximate dimensions of width: 2.00-2.5 mm. and depth: 2.0-2.5 mm.~~

11. (Currently amended) The first aid strip as claimed in claim 10, wherein is said bulge is about 2.0 mm to 2.5 mm deep. ~~9 where the said ring is made of, cork, rubber, latex~~

12. (Currently amended) A method of manufacture of a first aid strip, comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a ~~strip of sterile~~ gauze base pad comprising a first base pad surface and an opposing second base pad surface;

(b) providing a plurality of gauze layers; ~~at least, 2 additional layers of, sterile, non-adherent gauze pad;~~

(c) removing at least part of the middle of each of said plurality of gauze layers to form a plurality of gauze spacers so that each spacer defines an spacer void in the

approximate center of each respective spacer; cutting a window / hole in the two layers of additional gauze pad, from around the center, the window conforming to the shape of the gauze pad, thus creating a ring of pad;

(d) associating at least one surface of each of said plurality of gauze spacers to the surface of another gauze spacer to form a gauze spacer stack wherein the spacer voids for each individual gauze spacer are in substantial alignment thereby defining a spacer stack void;

~~attaching said additional layers on one side of said gauze pad strip with the layers one above the other, so that the top most additional layer comes in contact with the skin;~~

(e) associating one end of said spacer stack with said second base pad surface; and providing a strip of adhesive tape to the other side of the gauze pad.

(f) providing a substrate comprising a first adhesive surface opposed by a second surface wherein the first adhesive surface is associated with said first base pad surface.

13. (Currently amended) A method for the manufacture of first aid strip, comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a gauze pad comprising a first gauze pad surface and an opposing second gauze pad surface; ~~Providing a strip of sterile, non-adherent gauze pad;~~

(b) providing a gauze ring having a first ring surface and an opposing second ring surface wherein said ring defines a void in the approximate center of said ring;

(c) associating said first ring surface to said first gauze pad surface thereby defining a gauze pad pocket;

(d) providing a substrate comprising a first substrate surface and a second adhesive substrate surface; and

(e) associating said second adhesive substrate surface with one of (i) said second gauze pad surface and (ii) said second ring surface. ~~Fixing a strip of adhesive tape, to the other side of the of gauze pad, the said ring being fixed to, the said strip of adhesive tape, and surrounding the gauze pad.~~

14. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the outer border of the gauze ring is flush with the margins of gauze pad and wherein the gauze ring defines a square strip.

15. (currently amended) A Method according claim ~~12~~ 13, wherein the outer border of said gauze ring defines a distance that is about the same as the distance defined by the outer edge of said gauze pad. ~~wherein a ring of inert material is interposed and sealed, between the strip of gauze pad and, said at least one layer of additional gauze pad, prior to the step of fixing, the said strip of adhesive tape, to the strip of gauze pad.~~

16. (currently amended) ~~A gauze hat hat/cap, comprising:~~ A bandage for covering a wound, said bandage comprising:

~~a flat sterile gauze pad, a pouch, well, or hollow being provided on one side of the gauze pad.~~

a substrate comprising a first adhesive substrate surface and an opposing second substrate surface;

a spacer comprising a first spacer surface and a second spacer surface wherein said spacer surfaces form a spacer border surrounding a spacer void in the approximate center of said spacer and wherein said first spacer surface is associated with said first adhesive substrate surface; and

a pad comprising a first pad surface and a second pad surface wherein said first pad surface is associated with said second space surface and said first adhesive substrate surface thereby sealing said spacer between said substrate and said pad.

17. (Currently amended) A bandage for covering a wound as in claim 16, wherein said substrate, said pad, and said spacer each define a rectangle and wherein:

(a) the length of said substrate is about three times the length of said pad,

(b) the width of said substrate is wider than the width of said pad,

(c) the length of said spacer is about the same as the length of said pad, and

(d) the width of said spacer is about the same as the width of said pad.

~~A gauze hat / cap according to claim 16, wherein one or two layers of additional gauze, are attached to the flat gauze pad, with a widow / hole created, in the central area of gauze pad and the additional gauze pad layer, thus providing a wall of gauze pad all around.~~

18. (currently amended) A bandage for covering a wound as in claim 16, wherein said substrate, said pad, and said spacer each define a rectangle and wherein:

(a) the length of said substrate is about three times the length of said pad ;

(b) the length of said spacer is about the same length as said pad;

(c) the width of said spacer is about the same as the width of said substrate; and

wherein the width of said pad is one of (i) substantially equal to the width of said substrate, and (ii) wider than the width of said substrate.

~~A gauze hat / cap, according to claim 17, wherein a ring made of an inert material, such as cork, rubber, latex, is interposed and, sealed between the flat gauze pad and said, at least one additional layer of gauze pad.~~

19. (currently amended) A bandage for covering a wound as in claim 16, A gauze hat / cap, according to claim 16, wherein a ring wherein said spacer is composed of inert material. is placed on said one side of the gauze pad, to form a pouch, well, depression or hollow, on that side. The ring has its outer border flush with the margins of the gauze pad.

20. (currently amended) A bandage for covering a wound as in claim 16, wherein said spacer void defines a pouch that is about 2.0 mm to about 2.5 mm wide and about 2.0mm to about 2.5 mm deep. A gauze hat / cap, according to claim 16, wherein the said pouch, well, depression, hollow, is formed by a bulge in said gauze pad layer.